

## CLAIMS

1. A method for accessing an information recording medium in which a data area is allocated, wherein:

5           first file management information which provides a first access method and second file management information which provides a second access method are recorded in the information recording medium; and

          the first file management information and the second  
10 file management information manage files recorded in the information recording medium, the method comprising the steps of:

          (a) reading out one of the first file management information and the second file management information; and

15           (b) accessing the data area with the access method provided by one of the read out first file management information and the read out second file management information.

20 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein:

          the first access method is a method for accessing the data area such that the data area functions as a read-only area which allows only reproduction of a file recorded in the data area; and

25           the second access method is a method for accessing the data area such that the data area functions as an area which allows reproduction of the file recorded in the data area, and also recording of a file in the data area.

30 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein:

          the file recorded in the data area includes a core set file and an extension set file;

          the core set file is a file for implementing a basic

function of a predetermined application;

the extension set file is a file for implementing an extended function of the predetermined application;

5 the first access method is a method for accessing the data area so as to reproduce the core set file and the extension set file included in the files recorded in the data area;

10 the second access method is a method for accessing the data area so as to reproduce only the core set file among the core set file and the extension set file included in the files recorded in the data area.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein:

15 at least one partition which is defined as an area accessible with the first access method and at least one segment which is defined as an area accessible with the second access method are allocated in the information recording medium; and

20 the data area is an overlap area in which parts of the at least one partition and the at least one segment overlap each other.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein:

25 the segment includes a first segment and a second segment; and

an area formed of the first segment and the second segment and the partition overlap each other.

30 6. A method according to claim 4, wherein the partition and the segments are allocated in ECC block units.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the step (b) includes the step of recording a file in the data area, the method

further comprising the step of:

(c) updating the first file management information and the second file management information so as to correspond to a record position of the file.

5

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein:

at least one partition which is defined as an area accessible with the first access method and at least one segment which is defined as an area accessible with the second access method are allocated in the information recording medium; and

10

the data area is an overlap area in which parts of the at least one partition and the at least one segment overlap each other.

15

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein:

the segment includes a first segment and a second segment;

20

the first segment is an area in which a non-real time file for implementing a function of a predetermined application is to be recorded;

the second segment is an area in which a real time file for implementing a function of the predetermined application is to be recorded; and

25

the step (b) includes the steps of:

determining whether the file to be recorded is the non-real time file or the real time file;

when the file to be recorded is the non-real time file, recording the non-real time file in the first segment; and

30

when the file to be recorded is the real time file, recording the real time file in the second segment.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein:

the second file management information includes record end position information which indicates a position where recording is finished; and

5 the step (b) includes the step of recording the file in the data area in accordance with the record end position information.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein:

10 the record end position information indicates a position where one way repetitive recording is finished; and

the step (b) includes the step of repetitively recording the file in one way in the data area in accordance  
15 with the record end position information.

12. A method according to claim 7, wherein:

the second file management information includes record position information which indicates a record position  
20 of the first file management information; and

the step (c) includes the step of updating the record position information of the second file management information so as to correspond to the record position of the updated first file management information.  
25

13. A method according to claim 7, wherein:

the first file management information includes first integrity information which indicates whether a state of the first file management information is an open state or  
30 a closed state; and

the first integrity information indicating the open state indicates that a file can be recorded in the information recording medium, and the first integrity information

indicating the closed state indicates that a file is normally recorded, the method further comprising the steps of:

putting the first integrity information into the open state before the step (b); and

5 putting the first integrity information into the closed state after the step (b).

14. A method according to claim 7, wherein:

10 the second file management information includes second integrity information which indicates whether a state of the second file management information is an open state or a closed state; and

15 the second integrity information indicating the open state indicates that a file can be recorded in the information recording medium, and the second integrity information indicating the closed state indicates that a file is normally recorded, the method further comprising the steps of:

putting the second integrity information into the open state before the step (b); and

20 putting the second integrity information into the closed state after the step (b).

15. A method according to claim 7, wherein:

25 the first file management information includes first file name information for indicating a name of the file recorded in the data area and first record position information for indicating a record position of the file recorded in the data area; and

30 the second file management information includes second file name information for indicating a name of the file recorded in the data area and second record position information for indicating a record position of the file recorded in the data area, the method further comprising

steps of:

determining whether the first file name information and the second file name information correspond to each other; and

5           determining whether the first record position information and the second record position information correspond to each other.

16. A method according to claim 1, wherein a file is recorded  
10       in the data area, and the step (b) includes the step of reproducing the file.

17. An apparatus for accessing an information recording medium in which a data area is allocated, wherein:

15           first file management information which provides a first access method and second file management information which provides a second access method are recorded in the information recording medium; and

20           the first file management information and the second file management information manage files recorded in the information recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

          reading means for reading out one of the first file management information and the second file management information; and

25           accessing means for accessing the data area with the access method provided by one of the read out first file management information and the second file management information.

30       18. An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the accessing means includes recording means for recording a file in the data area, the apparatus further comprising:

          updating means for updating the first file management

information and the second file management information so as to correspond to a record position of the file.

5 19. An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein a file is recorded in the data area, and the accessing means includes reproducing means for reproducing the file.

10 20. An information recording medium in which the first file management information and the second file management information are recorded, wherein:

the first file management information and the second file management information manage a file recorded in the information recording medium;

15 the first file management information provides the first access method to a data area allocated to the information recording medium; and

the second file management information provides the second access method to the data area.